1		2	3	4	5
2000-2001					
Bihar	Wheat	1126.260	129.908	428.651	1.081
	Rice	750.840	86.604	131.445	1.032
Jharkhand	Wheat	110.700	12.652	72.526	0.067
	Rice	73.800	8.436	14.150	0.120
2001-2002					
Bihar	Wheat	1164.501	104.604	313.475	0.325
	Rice	656.370	69.732	64.639	0.686
Jharkhand	Wheat	340.491	37.956	152.531	0.861
	Rice	227.000	25.308	76.529	5.609

(c) and (d) The economic cost of foodgrains of FCI during last three years are as under:

	(Rs. per quintal)	(Provisional)
	Rice	Wheat
1999-2000	1074.80	887.51
2000-2001	1180.47	858.26
2001-2002	1204.35	871.30

Central Issue Price of wheat and rice issued under TPDS to BPL category w.e.f. 25.7.2000 are Rs. 415/- per quintal and Rs. 565/- per quintal respectively. The difference between the economic cost and the Central issue price of foodgrains is reimbursed to FCI through food subsidy by the Government. This is not a profit or loss making operation.

Withdrawal of rice **from FCI godowns**

1695. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has proposed to the Centre that it should be allowed withdrawal of rice from the Food Corporation of India godowns within the State; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has not sent any proposal to Central Government to allow withdrawal of rice from the FCI godowns within the State.

(b) Does not arise.

Clearance of sugarcane dues by sugar mills

1696. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the quantum of dues the sugar mills in the country owe to the sugarcane growers, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken to ensure clearance of dues by the sugar mills in a time bound programme to avert unhappy situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) A statement showing State-wise position of sugarcane price payable, price paid and the balance outstanding for the season 2001 -2002, as on 30.9.2002 is annexed. *{See* below)

(b) The responsibility for ensuring timely payment of cane price dues lies with the State Governments which have necessary powers and field organizations to enforce such payments. The Central Government on its part, besides writing to the State Governments from time to time for expeditious clearance of the same, has taken the following remedial measures to improve the financial health of domestic sugar industry with a view to enabling it to reduce the cane price arrears:

(i) The levy obligation of domestic sugar factories was reduced from 40% to 30% with effect from 01.01.2000 and, subsequently, to 15% with effect from 01.02.2001; this has further been reduced to 10% with effect from 01.03.2002 and will enable the sugar factories to sell more sugar under free sale quota In the open market and obtain better realization.

(ii) To restrict the inflow of imported sugar in the country, the Central Government (with effect from 09.02.2000) has increased the customs duty to 60% along with the existing countervailing duty of Rs. 850 per tonne.